



RESPONSE
UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 1653
PATENT APPLICATION

27
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3/8/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

LAFFEND ET AL.

CASE NO.: CR-9715-B

APPLICATION NO.: 08/849,404

GROUP ART UNIT: 1653

FILED: 22 MAY 1997

EXAMINER: BUGIASKY, G.

FOR: BIOCONVERSION OF A FERMENTABLE
CARBON SOURCE TO 1,3-PROPANEDIOL
BY A SINGLE MICROORGANISM

REPLY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This document is filed in response to the Final Office Action, Paper 25, mailed 28 August 2000. This Reply is filed outside the shortened statutory period and is accompanied by a Petition to extend the period to respond to 28 February 2001 and authorization to pay the appropriate fee. Additionally, a RCE under the provisions for 37 CFR 1.114 is filed concurrently. Please enter the following amendments and comments.

In the Specification:

At page 1, after the title, insert

H1
--This application is a division of US Application No. 08/849,404, filed 22 May 1997, the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/US96/06705, filed 10 May 1996, which in turn is a CIP of US Application No. 08/440,293, filed 12 May 1995, now US 5,686,276.--

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claim 22.